

Winners announced for national dental competition

Dental practices and their teams across the UK celebrated the best in the profession at the 11th annual Dental Awards.

This year the Dental Awards is a truly national event, with entrants from across the country including Lanarkshire, Sheffield, London, Newton Abbot and Cardiff. The event is organised to showcase the best that the UK dental profession has to offer, and in keeping with this aim, all the winners are announced at a glittering awards ceremony, including cocktail reception, celebrity compere, four-course meal and awards ceremony.

Hosted by Gyles Brandreth, the event was a night of celebration as winners for categories such as Dentist of the Year, Team of the Year, Laboratory of the Year and Dental Team Support. Commenting on the event, chair of the judging panel and editor of co-organisers *The Probe* Lisa Townshend said: "The awards evening was a fantastic night. I'd like to commend everyone who entered, but special congratulations go to all of our winners – you set an example of professionalism and care for your patients for us all to follow."

The Dental Awards 2009 was organised by Purple Media Solutions Ltd (publishers of *The Probe* and *Smile*) and the British Dental Health Foundation. The event was sponsored by Denplan, The Dental Web, Dentsply and The Wrigley Company.

- The Winner in each category are as follows:

1. Dentist of the Year

Northern Winner: Mike Heads – The Dental Healthcare Centre [Stockton on Tees]

Highly Commended: Michael Cahill – Cahill Care Centre Ltd [Bolton]

Southern Winner: Bhavin Bhatt – Smile & Wellbeing Dental Care [**Bishops Stortford**]

Highly Commended: David Bloom – Senova Dental Studios [**Watford**]

National Winner: Mike Heads – The Dental Healthcare Centre [Stockton on Tees]

2. Hygienist of the Year

Winner: Karen Hails – The Dental Healthcare [**Stockton on Tees**]

Highly Commended: Joanna Louise Jones – Andrew Kay and Associates [**Covent Garden**] and Smile@Kingshill

3. Team Support

Winner: El-Nashar Dental Care Ltd – Newton Abbot, Devon

4. Oral Health Promoter of the Year

Winner: Emma Clithero – Dentith & Dentith Dental Practice [**Rutland**]

Highly Commended: Julia Wilkinson – Oral Health Promotion [**Nottinghamshire**]

5 Practice Design & Interior

Northern Winner: The Dental Healthcare Centre [Stockton on Tees]

Southern Winner: Swiss Smile Kids – [London]

National Winner: The Dental Healthcare Centre [Stockton on Tees]

6 Dental Nurse of the Year

Winner: Kirsty Barber – Thompson & Thomas [Sheffield]

Highly Commended: Sam Davis – Marsh Farm Health Centre [Luton]

7. Dental Receptionist of the Year

Winner: Carly Cambell – Thompson & Thomas [Sheffield]

Highly Commended: Jane Allen – Wendy Sandeman Dental Practice [Drimpton, Dorset]

8. Practice Manager of the Year

Winner: Jane Armitage – Thompson & Thomas [Sheffield]

9. Dental Therapist of the Year

Winner: Catherine Gray – Special Care and Community Dental Service [Barking, Essex]

10. Dental Laboratory of the Year

Winner: Casterbridge Dental Studio – [Dorset]

11. Best National Smile Month Event

Winner: Dentith & Dentith Dental Practice – [Rutland]

12. Technician of the Year

Winner: TJ Nicolas, The Implant and Ceramic Centre, Miserden, Gloucestershire

13. People’s Award for Patient Care

Winner: John Patrick McVeigh from the Abbey Mead Dental Practice & Implant Centre [Tavistock, Devon]

14. Team of the Year

Northern Winner: Thompson & Thomas – [Sheffield]

Highly Commended: Woodseats Dental Care – [Sheffield]

Southern Winner: El-Nashar Dental Care Ltd – [Newton Abbot]

Highly Commended: Wendy Sandeman Dental Practice – [Drimpton]

National Winner: Thompson & Thomas – [Sheffield]

15. Outstanding Achievement Award

Winner: Professor Crispian Scully, CBE

16. Clinical Dental Technician of the Year

Winner: Marc Northover – Ivoclar Vivadent UK [Leicester]

Highly Commended: James Neilson – Winning Smiles [Gillingham, Dorset]